



# 2024 TACC COOPERATIVE MANAGER'S CONFERENCE

July 10-12, 2024

Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder - Santa Fe, NM

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 10**

10:00 a.m. Registration

12:00 p.m. Conference Welcome Luncheon

- **Special Guest Speaker: Dan Meers, KC Wolf, Kansas City Chiefs**
  - Attendees from TACC's Cooperative Board Chair's and Managers' Conferences will come together for a memorable luncheon featuring a special guest: Dan Meers, better known as KC Wolf, the beloved mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs! Dan is more than just a mascot; he's a motivational powerhouse! Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to meet Dan Meers and hear his inspiring message firsthand!

1:30 p.m. Welcome and Announcements

1:45 p.m. "Navigating the Fields of Change: Strategic Thinking for Cooperative Managers"

- **Richard Fagerlin, Peak Solutions, Inc., President, Ft. Collins, CO**
  - This session is an exploration of how managers in agricultural cooperatives can navigate the complex, rapidly changing landscape of agribusiness. During a time defined by uncertainty and high risk, strategic thinking becomes the compass guiding cooperative managers towards success. This presentation delves into practical strategies for embracing change, identifying opportunities amidst challenges, and fostering a culture of adaptability within cooperative structures. Through insightful analysis and real-world case studies, attendees will gain insight into the role of strategic thinking in mitigating risks, seizing opportunities, and ensuring the long-term resilience and prosperity of their cooperative. Join us as we chart a course through the fields of change towards strategic excellence.

4:00 p.m. "Legal Updates: What You Need to Know"

- **Gary McLaren, Co-op Attorney, McLaren Law Firm, Lubbock, TX**
  - Join the leading cooperative attorney, Gary McLaren, for a comprehensive legal update. In this presentation, he will cover the latest legal cases that are shaping the landscape for cooperatives. Gain invaluable insights into recent precedents, emerging trends, and essential regulatory shifts affecting cooperatives.

5:00 p.m. Summary, Conclusion, and Adjourn

5:45 p.m. Conference Reception

# THURSDAY, JULY 11

- 8:00 a.m. Welcome and Announcements**
- 8:10 a.m. “Status of the Farm Bill and Impacts on Texas Agriculture”**
- **Tas Smith, Vice President of Producer Affairs, National Cotton Council, Memphis, TN**
    - Join Tas Smith from the National Cotton Council for a presentation on the status of the Farm Bill and its implications for agriculture in Texas. Learn about the latest farm policies, their effects on the agricultural landscape, and how they impact Texas farmers and the industry as a whole.
- 8:55 a.m. “Section 199A(g): Preparing for Next Year’s Tax Debate”**
- **Chuck Conner, CEO, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, Washington D.C.**
    - Chuck Conner, CEO of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, joins the group for a crucial presentation on preparing for next year’s tax debate in Congress. Learn what NCFC is doing to get Section 199A(g) extended, understand what’s at stake for cooperatives and farmers, and discover how TACC members can support their efforts.
- 9:40 a.m. Break**
- 9:55 a.m. “Identifying Grower Perceptions of Sustainability Programs”**
- **Dr. Donna McAllister, Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Texas Tech University, Lubbock**
    - Dr. McAllister will present research that sheds light on the perspectives of growers, offering crucial information for enhancing sustainability initiatives and fostering better alignment between programs and growers’ needs.
- 10:40 a.m. “Texas Agricultural Insurance Update: Tips and Tricks to Weather the Storm in This Crazy Market”**
- **Randy Daniels, Chief Risk Advisor, Triangle Insurance, Enid, OK**
    - Join Randy Daniels from Triangle Insurance for an insightful presentation on the soaring insurance costs in agriculture. Learn why insurance costs have skyrocketed and discover practical strategies cooperatives can implement to manage and mitigate the rising expenses effectively.
- 11:40 a.m. Summary and Conclusion**
- 11:45 a.m. Adjourn**
- 11:45 a.m. Conference Luncheon**
- 12:30 p.m. Golf Tournament**

# **FRIDAY, JULY 12**

**8:00 a.m. Welcome and Announcements**

**8:10 a.m. “Meet the 2024 Co-op Interns”**

- **Hannah Herman, Texas A&M University, United Ag, El Campo, TX**
- **Jake Smith, Texas Tech University, Willacy Co-op, Raymondville, TX**
- **Byron Ramsey, Texas A&M University, PYCO Industries, Lubbock, TX**

**8:30 a.m. “Legislation Impacting Rural Texas”**

- **The planning committee requested that TACC bring a state legislator to this meeting to not only talk and relate to the group, but also to get a first – hand view of the “issues” impacting cooperatives, famers, and rural Texas. There are several leaders TACC will be approaching for this role. As such, the speaker is yet to be determined.**

**9:15 a.m. Mastering Financial Presentations: Effectively Communicating Your Financials to the Board**

- **Dr. Ronald Crowe, Instructional Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX**
  - **This presentation discusses effectively presenting your financials to the board of directors at your cooperative. Learn valuable strategies and best practices to ensure your financial reports are clear, concise, and impactful. Master the art of financial communication and enhance decision-making processes within your cooperative.**

**10:15 a.m. Empowering Cooperatives: Online Tools for Board of Directors Training and Self-Assessment**

- **Dr. John Park, Roy B. Davis Professor of Agricultural Cooperation and Extension Specialist, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX**
- **Dr. Diane Friend, Assistant Professor of Agribusiness, Texas A&M University Kingsville, College Station, TX**
  - **Dr. John Park and Dr. Diane Friend will demonstrate two valuable online tools for training and assessing cooperative board of directors. Discover how these tools can be used to enhance efficiency, boost effectiveness, and ensure better governance within your cooperative.**

**10:50 a.m. Summary and Conclusion**

**11:00 a.m. Adjourn**